

RFP VA246-16-R-0091

Custom Surgical Procedure Trays – Richmond VA Medical Center

Questions and Answers #4

Date: 8 February 16

The following are a list of questions received in response to the solicitation. Answers are provided.

- 1) (Instruction to Offerors Page 39) are the required electronic file submission "Tabs" separate electronic files or volumes? Or are the "Tabs" sections or bookmarks within one electronic file submission?

Answer: Separate files.

- 2) (Instruction to Offerors Page 39) are source spreadsheet files (versus PDF) required for submission?

Answer: This question is a reference to how Solicitation/Contract Attachment A – Pack Contents should be submitted. Either format is fine (spreadsheet or pdf).

- 3) (Paragraph B.2, Limitations on Subcontracting-Monitoring and Compliance) The VA has indicated that a waiver of the Non-Manufacturer Rule has been granted for this procurement. As we understand this waiver, an SDVOSB will be permitted to subcontract with a large business for the assembly of custom surgical packs in this procurement. Please confirm the correctness of this understanding. If our understanding is correct, please explain the purpose of solicitation paragraph B.2, "Limitations on Subcontracting-Monitoring and Compliance."

Answer: A non-manufacturer rule waiver was obtained for this requirement, allowing SDVOSB offerors to subcontract without limitations regarding large businesses. Amendment A00003 removes the limitations on subcontracting clause.

- 4) (Reference Solicitation Page 14) Can you share the contact information for A Medical Company and the reasoning behind not allowing an equivalent given this is a disposable cotton towel? The company and item number do not come up on GSA, NAC Search Tool.

Answer: The end user made an error on the original pack sheet. The pack sheet has been updated to reflect US Medco item number DT04-B M, which is currently in use at the facility. The item is now marked as substitutable. The revised pack sheet is provided with Amendment A00003.

- 5) (Reference Solicitation Page 14) Geo-Med has Blue XRay Detectable OR Towels on FSS contract V797P-2264D. Could you change the do not substitute item referenced to reflect Geo-Med's FSS contracted TAA compliant towels as an exact match? Item number DT100-DB-M, X-Ray Detectable OR Towel Blue.

Answer: The end user made an error on the original pack sheet. The pack sheet has been updated to reflect US Medco item number DT04-B M, which is currently in use at the facility. The item is now marked as substitutable. The revised pack sheet is provided with Amendment A00003.

- 6) (Reference Solicitation Page 14) The requirement below as it relates to OR towels are over restrictive. A 100% cotton pre-washed towel will not active as barrier protection, including blood borne pathogens, microbial challenge, as well as hydrostatic pressure with resistance to tears, abrasion and stains. Should this be only a drape and gown requirement?

Answer: The pack sheet has been updated to make the referenced towel substitutable. The wording of the referenced paragraph has been changed to better reflect Government requirements.

- 7) Account is requesting 1703349 specimen cup 5oz w/lid from Covidien as a do not substitute item. The item number given is not a valid number per our efforts to secure with Covidien. Is there another item number you can provide?

Answer: The end user made an error on the original pack sheet. The pack sheet has been updated to reflect Covidien item number 2600SA, which is currently in use at the facility. The item is now marked as substitutable. The revised pack sheet is provided with Amendment A00003.

- 8) (Reference Solicitation Page 34) Check mark is not placed next to 52.225-3 and 52.225-5. Can you kindly confirm if all individual components within the pack are TAA compliant as mentioned on page 13?

Answer: Amendment A00003 corrects the solicitation by adding the appropriate checkmarks.

- 9) Do all of the trays in the solicitation (1-23) make up the lot?

Answer: Yes. And there are bundle quantities (estimated annual quantities) listed at the top of each pack contents list.

- 10) (Reference B.4 Price/Cost Schedule Page 18) Assuming the above answer is affirmative, do you want us to multiply the 1 each cost of a particular bundle by the estimated annual requirement to arrive at our total?

Answer: Yes.

- 11) Pg. 8, B. Transition Plan: Normally the implementation period for a custom pack program such as the one at the Richmond VAMC is greater than the specified 60 days (industry standard is 10-12 weeks to design, build, and sterilize). Understanding all bidders will be in the same situation, could there be consideration made to increasing the transition plan period to something greater than 60 days?

Answer: Information obtained during the market research phase indicated that 60 days is a typical transition period for this requirement.

- 12) Pg. 8, B. Transition Plan: For planning purposes, what are the expiration dates of the existing contracts/options referenced in the first sentence?

Answer: There is no current active contract. Another temporary order is being processed to supply the customer until the completion of this procurement. I will provide more information as it becomes available.

- 13) Pg. 24. C.3 First Article Approval paragraph (a): Are the 2 units of each line item for the first article approval NON-sterilized?

Answer: Those items will need to be sterilized.

- 14) May a contractor/manufacturing representative be allowed to observe the opening of their sample pack with the evaluation team to allow the representative to answer any questions the evaluation team may have?

Answer: If we have any questions, and the Government decides to conduct clarifications or to have exchanges, questions will be asked at that time.